

Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grant Program Informational Webinar

Welcome to the Webinar!

Please introduce yourself in the chat box (name and affiliation)

During the presentation, please type any comments or questions into the chat box

There will be more time after the presentation to unmute yourself and ask questions or discuss project ideas



Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grant Program Informational Webinar


This webinar provides information on the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management's Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grant Program. This webinar will review the goals and requirements of the grant, cover timelines, and allow time for questions and discussion of potential project ideas

This webinar will be recorded, and the recording and presentation pdfs will be available on the grant program pages after April 5

See the grant website for more information:

www.mass.gov/service-details/coastal-habitat-and-water-quality-grants





Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grant Program Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management 4/4/2023

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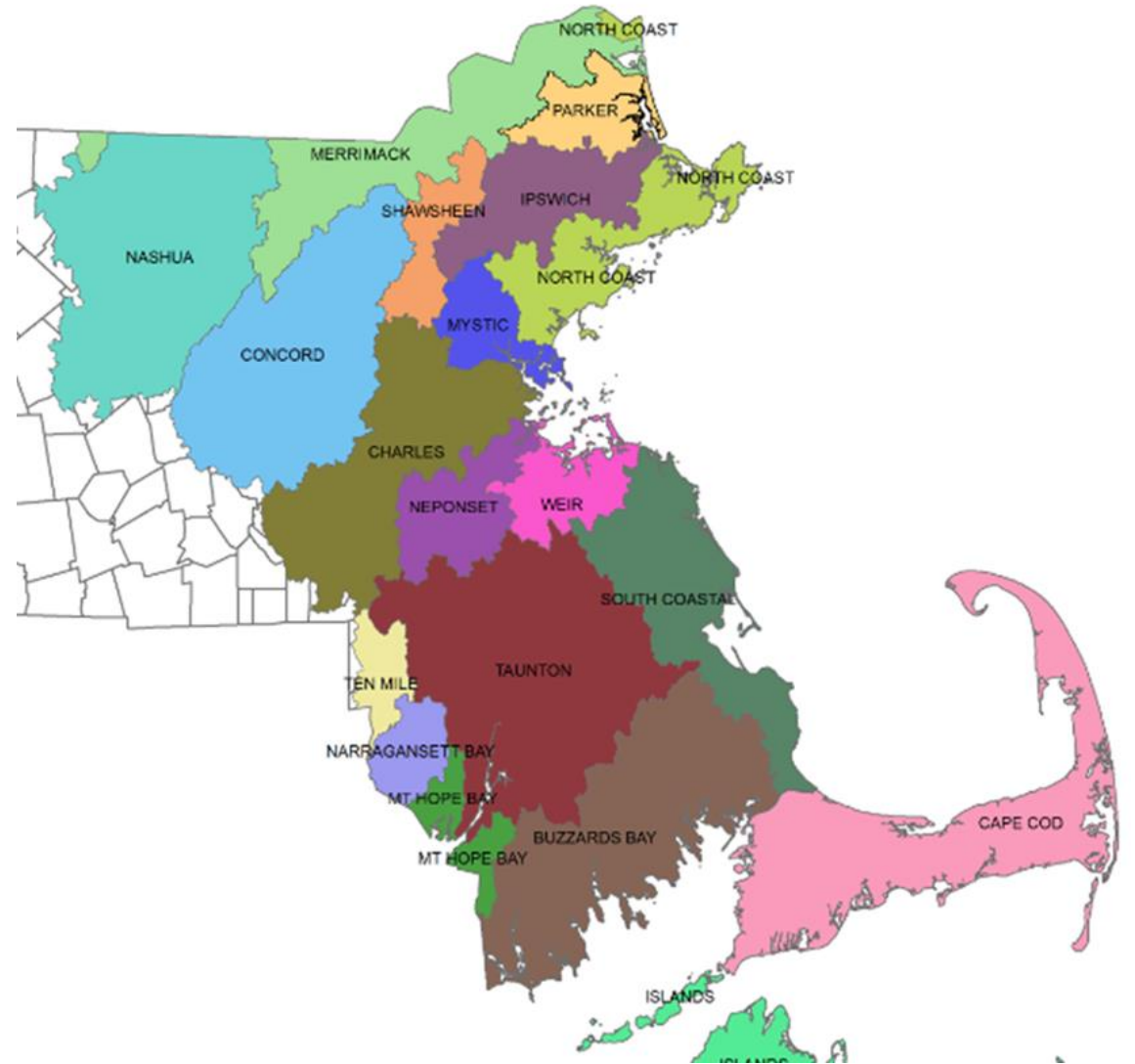
Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants

- Improve or protect water quality and habitat through the remediation or prevention of stormwater sources of pollution
- Support comprehensive habitat restoration planning
- Support implementation of priority restoration actions



Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities in the coastal watershed (>200)
- Certified 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, regional planning agencies, and stormwater collaboratives (in partnership with an eligible municipality)
- Projects that benefit Environmental Justice populations are strongly encouraged to apply
- Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) bonus



Eligible Projects

Assessment and Monitoring

Design and Permitting

Construction

Capacity Building

Public outreach as a component of a larger project

Comprehensive Habitat Restoration Planning

Habitat Restoration Plan Implementation

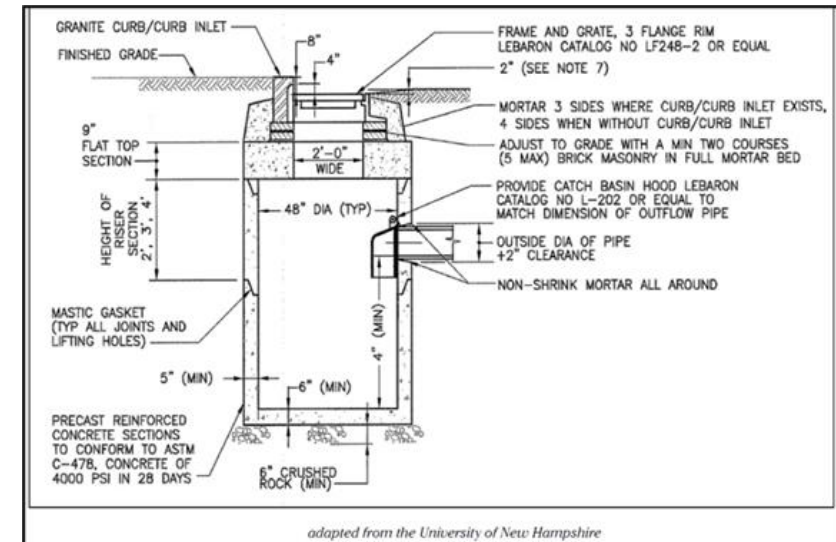
Eligible Projects – Stormwater Assessment

- Assessment, identification, and characterization of stormwater:
 - physical evaluation of drainage areas
 - land-use characterization
 - water quality testing at instream and outfall locations
 - investigation of the appropriate type and placement of stormwater best management practices (BMPs)
- The proposal should demonstrate some clear basis, such as preliminary data, to support further work



Eligible Projects – Design and Construction of BMPs

- Design, permitting, and implementation of:
 - BMPs to remediate runoff from paved or unpaved roads, bridges, and municipal parking lots
- Target contaminants include but are not limited to bacteria and nutrients



Eligible Projects - Capacity Building

- Encourage the use of green stormwater infrastructure & ensure long-term maintenance and function
- Development of local stormwater or low impact development bylaws/ordinances
- Green infrastructure operations & maintenance trainings for municipal staff
- Guidance documents or case studies of successful projects



Eligible Projects – Comprehensive Habitat Restoration Planning

- Detail existing conditions and define and evaluate natural resources within a specific project area
- Analyze, assess, and prioritize ecosystem restoration opportunities
- Design aspects of specific restoration and/or protection projects
- Development of a restoration plan with concrete short-term and long-term actions leading to restoration of coastal habitat
- Not limited to non-point source issues



Comprehensive Habitat Restoration Planning Priorities

Salt Marsh: Flow restoration, buffer protection, marsh migration planning, recreational management, nutrient remediation, invasive species management, removal of structures

Diadromous Fish Habitat: Stream/river daylighting, removal of obstruction/barriers, flow improvements, water quantity and quality issues, temperature, remediation of pollutants, riparian management, buffer protection, invasive species management



Eligible Projects – Habitat Restoration Plan Implementation

- Open to eligible applicants with a current comprehensive Habitat Restoration Plan completed under previous CHWQ funding
- Additional planning and assessment activities
- Design and permitting of priority restoration actions
- Construction of priority restoration projects



Public Education and Outreach

- Siting, design, and construction of stormwater BMPs:
 - not to exceed 5% of the total award amount
- Development and implementation of a comprehensive restoration plan:
 - majority of the proposed project budget targeted to developing or implementing the restoration plan



Goals



Improve and Protect Water Quality

- Remediate pollution to waterbodies listed on the State's Integrated List of (Impaired) Waters
- Improve water quality in waterbodies subject to eutrophication from nutrient inputs in stormwater runoff



Improve and Protect Water Quality

- Preserve or expand opportunities for shellfish harvesting, re-open or reduce limits on shellfish collection
 - Reduce or eliminate instances of beach closures due to elevated bacteria
 - Protect recreational uses
- *Illicit detection, septic, or sewer related activities not eligible*



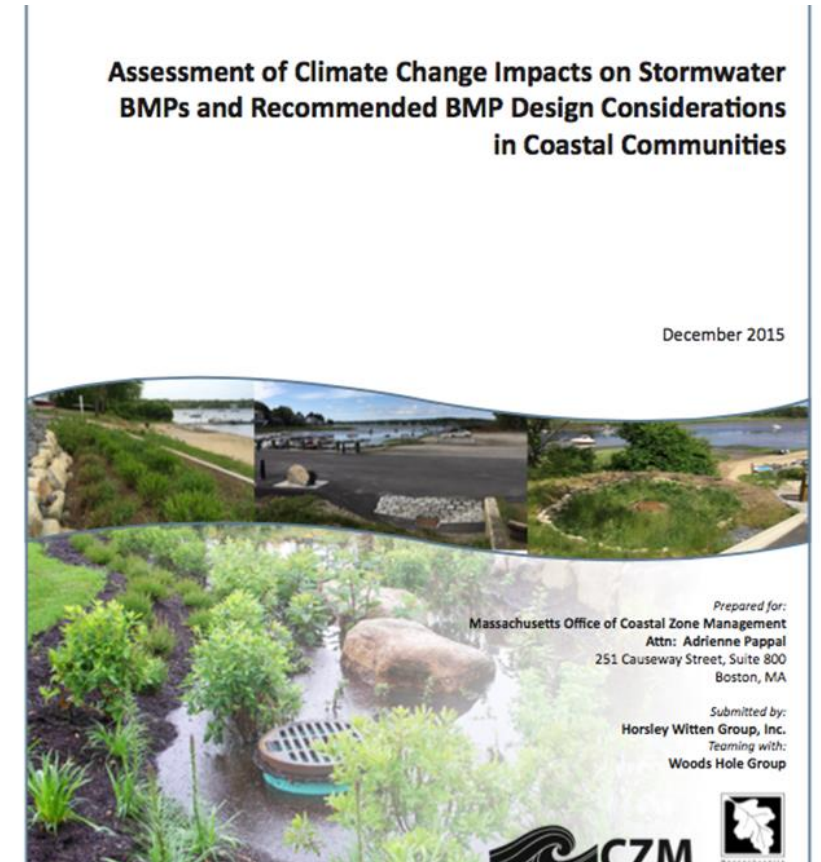


Protect and Restore Habitat

- Reduce impervious surfaces and restore natural buffers
- Improve or protect estuarine and freshwater habitat for diadromous fish within the coastal watershed
- Support comprehensive restoration planning of coastal habitats
- Support implementation of priority restoration actions

Climate Resiliency

- Nonpoint Source:
 - Site and design stormwater BMPs to increase treatment effectiveness and long-term resilience to climate change impacts
 - Retrofit stormwater infrastructure to support resiliency
- Habitat Restoration Planning and Implementation:
 - Proposal should appropriately consider climate resiliency for the resource area or project area



Environmental Justice

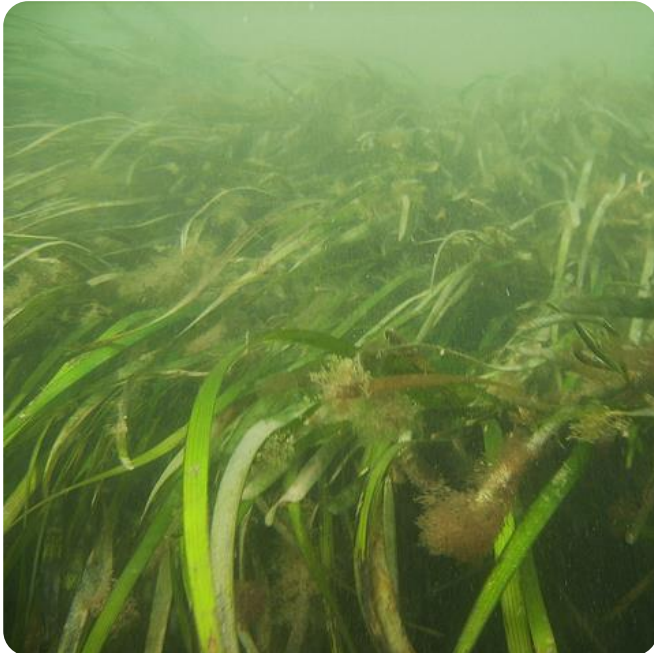
- All people have a right to live in and enjoy a clean and healthful environment, be protected from pollution, and be included in decision-making
- Describe how project activities will benefit environmental justice populations, including siting, design, and implementation of stormwater BMPs, development of restoration plans, implementation of habitat restoration actions, inclusion of stakeholders, formation of partnerships, and education and outreach for meaningful engagement
- www.mass.gov/environmental-justice



Operations & Maintenance

- Stormwater remediation:
 - Demonstrate the capacity for long-term O&M
 - Include DPW staff in all phases
 - Knowledge of BMPs
 - Equipment
 - Maintenance training and records
 - *Implementation O&M Plan required
- Habitat restoration plan and implementation
 - Incorporate adaptive management and maintenance considerations into restoration planning and implementation



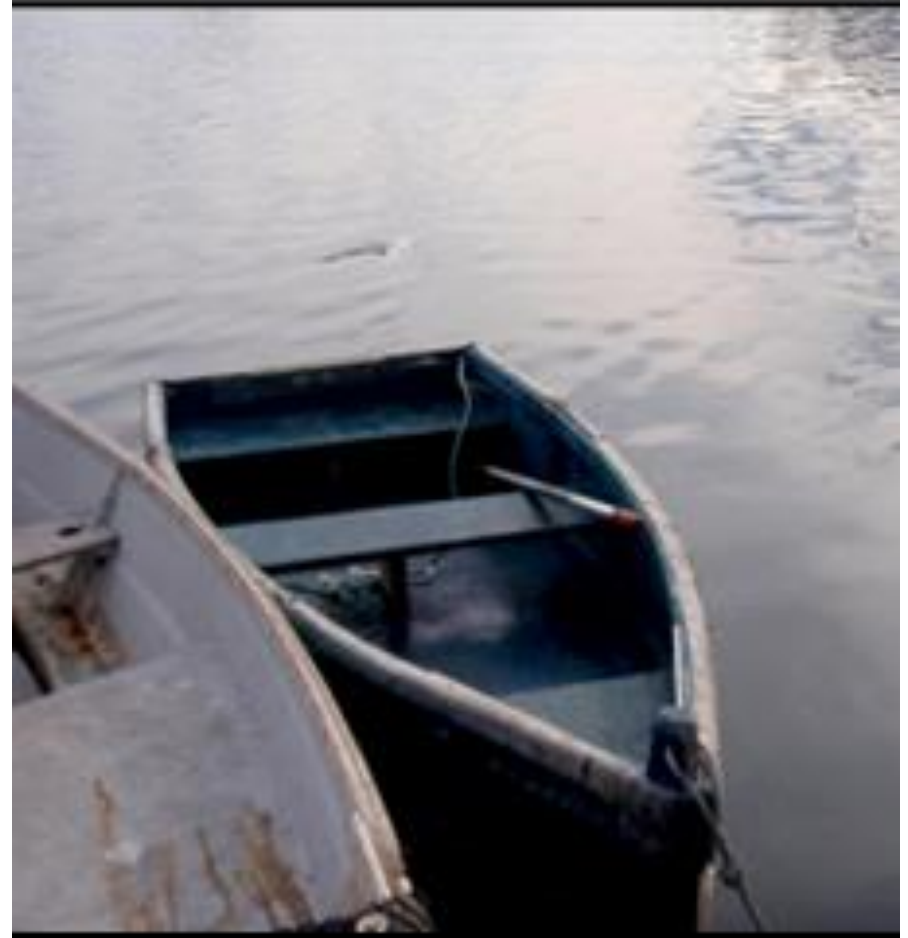


Application Tips

- Nonpoint Source Pollution
 - Clearly connect the solution to the problem
 - Link to habitat goals
 - Proposed BMP suitable for impairment of concern
 - Operation and Maintenance commitment
- Habitat Restoration Planning and Implementation
 - Clearly explain the need for restoration at the chosen site
 - Habitat restoration implementation project should be a clearly identified priority in the approved habitat restoration plan
 - Restoration actions should be comprehensive
- All Project Types
 - Show rationale for location selection
 - Work within the timeline
 - Reasonable budget

Logistics

- Match is optional but recommended
- Assessment, restoration planning, and design projects are estimated to range between \$50,000-\$100,000. Implementation projects are estimated to range between \$100,000 - \$800,000
- June 30, 2024
 - Opportunity to 2025
- Link to RFR posted on CHWQ grant page
 - www.commbuys.com/bso/
- Email sean.duffey@mass.gov to receive an announcement when RFR is posted
- **Electronic submission only**



Estimated Timeline

- RFR this spring
- Two-week Q&A period
 - e-mail best
- Proposals due about a month after the RFR release
- Contracting in September
- June 30, 2024
 - Opportunity to 2025



Thank you!

Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management

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